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(54) Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR DETECTING MULTIDRUG RESISTANT STRAINS OF *M. TUBERCULOSIS* HAVING MUTATIONS IN GENES OF THE *MUTT* FAMILY

(57) Abstract: The present invention pertains to polynucleotides derived from *M. tuberculosis* genes imparting resistance to antibiotics and chemically related compounds. This invention also relates to the use of the polynucleotides as oligonucleotide primers or probes for detecting *M. tuberculosis* strains that are resistant to antibiotics and related compounds in a biological sample. Kits containing the primers and probes are also provided.

WO 03/016562 A2